

## **Suma Ikeuchi**

*Curriculum Vitae: November 2017*  
Department of Religious Studies  
Manly Hall 204  
University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa  
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### **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

- Diaspora, Migration, Race, Ethnicity, National Identity
- Religion, Ritual, Christianity, Buddhism, Japanese Religions
- Kinship, Aging, Care, Medicine, Science and Technology
- Japan, Brazil, The Philippines, East/Southeast Asia, Trans-Pacific World
- Psychological, Medical, and Urban/Global/Transnational Anthropology
- Religious Studies, Migration Studies, Ethnic Studies, Asian Studies

### **PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS**

2016 - Present

Assistant Professor (Tenure-Track), Department of Religious Studies, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa

2017 Visiting Fellow-In-Residence, Transregional and Global Studies Platform, University of Göttingen, Germany

2012 Visiting Research Fellow, Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture, Nagoya, Japan

### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. Department of Anthropology, Emory University, Atlanta, 2016  
Dissertation: *Borders of Self: Return Migration and Global Pentecostalism among Nikkei Brazilian Migrants in Japan*  
Committee: Chikako Ozawa-de Silva (chair), Bradd Shore, Jeffrey Lesser

M.A. Department of Anthropology, Brandeis University, Waltham, 2010

B.A. Department of History and Cultural Anthropology, Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan, 2007

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Books**

Manuscript in Progress

*Jesus Loves Japan: Diasporic Return and Global Pentecostalism in a Brazilian Migrant Church.*

### **Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles**

- 2017 From Ethnic Religion to Generative Selves: Pentecostalism among Nikkei Brazilian Migrants in Japan. *Contemporary Japan*. 2(29): 214-229.  
(Contribution to the special issue “Squared Diaspora: Representations of the Japanese Diaspora Across Time and Space.”)
- 2017 Accompanied Self: Debating Pentecostal Individual and Japanese Relational Selves in Transnational Japan. *Ethos: Journal of the Society for Psychological Anthropology*. 45(1): 3-23.
- 2017 Back to the Present: The ‘Temporal Tandem’ of Migration and Conversion among Pentecostal Nikkei Brazilians in Japan. *Ethnos: Journal of Anthropology*. 82(4): 758-783.

Manuscript in Progress

Spiritual Quality Control: Precarious Labor and Pentecostal Ethics among Brazilian Migrants in Toyota, Japan.

### **Web-Based Publications & Educational Blog Posts**

- 2017 “What Counts as Buddhist? Jazz, Anime, and Modernities.” Studying Religion in Culture Blog.  
<https://religion.ua.edu/blog/2017/10/19/what-counts-as-buddhist-jazz-anime-and-modernities/>
- 2016 “Why Do They Touch the Phallus? Or, Diverging Theories of Ritual.” Studying Religion in Culture Blog.  
<https://religion.ua.edu/blog/2016/09/27/why-do-they-touch-the-phallus-or-diverging-theories-of-ritual/>
- 2016 “Messing Up at Starbucks, or the Ritual Order of Choice.” Studying Religion in Culture Blog.  
<https://religion.ua.edu/blog/2016/09/20/messing-up-at-starbucks-or-the-ritual-order-of-choice/>
- 2011 “Who’s Playing God? Analysis of the Grady Dialysis Crisis.” The Advocates for Responsible Care Website.  
<http://www.advocatesforresponsiblecare.org/whos-playing-god-analysis-grady-dialysis-crisis>

## **AWARDS & HONORS**

- 2015 Richard G. Condon Prize, The Society for Psychological Anthropology
- 2015 Theodore C. Bestor Prize, Honorable Mention, The Society for East Asian Anthropology

## **GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS**

### **1. Funding for an Ethnographic Study of Filipina Caretakers in Aging Japan: Intersection of Gender, Migration, and Politics of Care. 2017-Present.**

#### *Intramural Grants & Fellowships*

- 2017 The College Academy of Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity (CARSCA), College of Arts and Sciences, University of Alabama (\$5,000 approved for Pilot Phase 1)
- 2017 The Research Grants Committee (RGC), The Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development, University of Alabama (\$6,000 approved for Pilot Phase 2)

### **2. Funding for an Ethnographic Study of Ethnic, National, and Religious Identities among Japanese Brazilian Migrants in Japan. 2011-Present, Final Write-Up Phase.**

#### *Extramural Grants & Fellowships*

- 2017 Global Summer Semester Residential Fellowship, Social Science Research Council (SSRC) InterAsia Program and the University of Göttingen's Transregional and Global Studies Initiative (€8,500 awarded)
- 2013 Dissertation Research Grant, The Wenner-Gren Foundation (\$18,060 awarded)
- 2011 Kathryn Davis Fellowship for Peace, Intensive Summer Language School, Middlebury College (\$9,240 awarded)

#### *Intramural Grants & Fellowships*

- 2012 Pilot Research Funding, Department of Anthropology, Emory University
- 2010 Doctoral Study Fellowship, Department of Anthropology, Emory University

### **3. Other Grants and Fellowships**

- 2008 Long-Term Study Abroad Funding, The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology, Japanese Government

2008 Merit Scholarship, Department of Anthropology, Brandeis University

## **INVITED TALKS**

- 2017 *Contested Origins: Return Migration and Global Pentecostalism among Nikkei Brazilians in Japan*. Brazilian Studies Reading Group, The Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, October 26.
- 2014 *State of Latin American Pentecostalism in Japan*. Nanzan Institute of Religion and Culture, Nanzan University, Nagoya, Japan, June 20.

## **CAMPUS TALKS**

- 2016 *Borders of Self: Return Migration and Global Pentecostalism among Nikkei Brazilians in Japan*. The Department of Anthropology at the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Oct 31.
- 2015 *Pentecostalism Across Borders: Religion, Migration, and Conversion In and Beyond Brazil*. Panel with Dario Paulo Barrera Rivera, Universidade Metodista de São Paulo. Forum for the Ethnographic Study of Religion and Emory Graduate Division of Religion, Atlanta, November 4.

## **EXIBITIONS & FILM SCREENINGS**

- 2016 Film Screening and Discussion with Filmmaker: *In Leila's Room: Identities among Nikkei Brazilian Migrants in Japan*. Society for Visual Anthropology (SVA) Film & Media Festival, Minneapolis, MN, November 16-20.

## **CONFERENCE ACTIVITY**

### **Panels Organized**

- 2018 The Boundaries of Global Asia: Transnational Approach to China, Japan, Korea, and Beyond. The Association of Asian Studies, Washington D.C., March 22-25. Accepted.
- 2017 Troubling the Kin: Race, Kinship and Affect in Psychological Anthropology. The Society for Psychological Anthropology, New Orleans, LA, March 9-12.
- 2016 Envisioning the Future In, Through, and Against "Japan": Interdisciplinary and Heterolingual Approach to Hope. AAS-In-Asia Conference. The Association for Asian Studies, Kyoto, Japan, June 24-27.

- 2015 The Strange Self: Exploration of Mind through Buddhism and Christianity. The Society of Psychological Anthropology, Invited Panel. American Anthropological Association, Denver, CO, November 18-22.
- 2015 Morality of Movement: Migration, Pilgrimage, Diaspora, and Return. The Society for the Anthropology of Religion, San Diego, CA, April 16-19.

### **Papers**

- 2018 Of Two Bloods: Return Migration and Global Pentecostalism among Nikkei Brazilian Migrants in Contemporary Japan. The Association of Asian Studies, Washington D.C., March 22-25. Accepted.
- 2017 Becoming Latino in Japan: Race, Religion, and Mobility among Japanese Brazilian Migrants in Japan. The Society for Psychological Anthropology, New Orleans, LA, March 9-12.
- 2016 Futures Lost, Futures Found: Pentecostal Conversion as the Making of New Future, or Why Nikkei Brazilian Migrants Convert in Japan. Association for Asian Studies, Kyoto, Japan, June 24-27.
- 2016 The Future of Return Migration in East Asia: Nation, Kinship, and Religion among Nikkei Brazilians in Japan. The Society for East Asian Anthropology, Hong Kong, China, June 19-22.
- 2015 “Non-Religious” Selves: Brazilian Pentecostalism Meets Japanese Syncretic Religions in Japan. American Anthropological Association, Denver, CO, November 18-22.
- 2015 Temporal Return of Migrant Pilgrims: Japanese-Brazilian Pentecostal Converts in Japan. The Society for the Anthropology of Religion, San Diego, CA, April 16-19.
- 2015 Jesus Loves Japan: On “Love” Among Japanese-Brazilian Pentecostals in Japan. The Society for Psychological Anthropology, Boston, MA, April 9-12.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

#### **University of Alabama, Instructor of Record**

Buddhism (Spring 2018, Scheduled)

Global Christianities (Fall 2017)

Honors Introduction to Religious Studies (Spring & Fall 2017)

Myth, Ritual, and Magic: Theories of Ritual (Spring 2017)

Religions of the World (Fall 2016)

## **Emory University, Instructor of Record**

Religion, Health, and Healing (Fall 2015)

Ritual: Its Nature and Culture (Spring 2015)

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

2012-2014 Fieldwork on Japanese-Brazilians and their migratory and religious movements, São Paulo, Brazil (2 months) and Toyota, Japan (14 months)

2008-2009 Fieldwork on Japanese women with mental health issues who participate in self-help movements, Sapporo, Japan

## **EXTRACURRICULAR UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

2017-present Faculty Advisor, Religious Studies Student Association, University of Alabama

## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

2013-2014 Japanese Instructor for Children from Brazilian Migrant Families at NGO/NPO Torcida, Toyota, Japan

2010-2011 Volunteer in Management and Research: Advocates for Responsible Care, Atlanta

## **LANGUAGES**

Japanese: native

English: professional proficiency

Brazilian Portuguese: fluent in reading and speaking, good in writing

French: good in reading (DELF B2)

Tagalog: Basic (Language Training in Progress)

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Anthropological Association

American Academy of Religion

Association for Asian Studies

Society for Psychological Anthropology

Society for the Anthropology of Religion

Society for Medical Anthropology

Society for Urban, National, and Transnational/Global Anthropology